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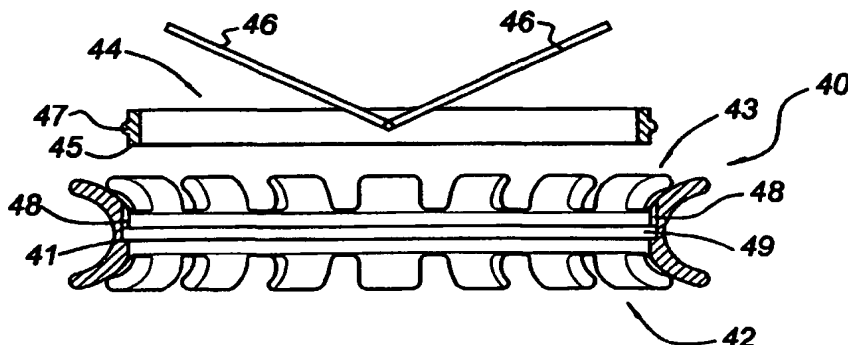
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ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: FIXING DEVICE, IN PARTICULAR FOR FIXING TO VASCULAR WALL TISSUE



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a cardiac prosthesis fixing device made up of a tubular element that can be accommodated inside a valve annulus of a heart and is provided with a bottom flange and top flange, between which the valve annulus can be accommodated. According to the invention the bottom flange is bent, or can be bent, reversibly, against a resilient force, from a first outward-pointing position into a second position in which the projection of the bottom flange on a radial transverse surface of the tubular element is located essentially on and/or within the periphery of the tubular element and the bottom flange is fixed or can be fixed in said second position in such a way that the fixing can be released in order to bend back the bottom flange towards the first position under the influence of said resilient force.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Intel _bnal Application No

PCT/NL 00/00265

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A61F2/24 A61B17/064 A61B17/11

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 A61F A61B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 855 601 A (CHUTER TIMOTHY A M ET AL) 5 January 1999 (1999-01-05) column 4, line 12 - line 26; claims 6,7; figures	1
A	US 3 686 740 A (SHILEY DONALD P) 29 August 1972 (1972-08-29) column 7, line 57 -column 8, line 27; figures	1,23
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A	US 4 506 394 A (BEDARD PIERRE) 26 March 1985 (1985-03-26) column 6, line 6 - line 20; figures	1
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
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- *8* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

14 December 2000

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/NL 00/00265

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 797 933 A (ADAMS CRAIG L ET AL) 25 August 1998 (1998-08-25) the whole document ---	55,62
A	WO 99 15112 A (UNITED STATES SURGICAL CORP) 1 April 1999 (1999-04-01) page 10, line 15 -page 11, line 15; figures 1-6 ---	23,24,28
A	US 5 695 504 A (COSTA PETER F ET AL) 9 December 1997 (1997-12-09) figures ---	23
A	US 5 478 354 A (SHIKHMAN OLEG ET AL) 26 December 1995 (1995-12-26) claims 1,7; figures 8-11 ---	23
A	WO 97 28745 A (HEARTPORT INC) 14 August 1997 (1997-08-14) page 14, line 22 -page 16, line 14; figures ---	23
X	WO 99 18887 A (VASCULAR SCIENCE INC) 22 April 1999 (1999-04-22) page 6, line 26 -page 7, line 7; figures ---	40,48,54
A	---	55
P,X	WO 99 52481 A (BETH ISRAEL HOSPITAL) 21 October 1999 (1999-10-21) page 35, line 21 -page 40, line 21; figures 23-38 page 44, line 30 -page 45, line 20 ---	40-42, 45,52,54
P,X	WO 99 37218 A (HEARTPORT INC) 29 July 1999 (1999-07-29) page 10, line 8 -page 11, line 2; figures page 14, line 10 - line 12 ---	40,54
A	WO 98 19634 A (VASCULAR SCIENCE INC) 14 May 1998 (1998-05-14) claims; figures ---	40
A	WO 98 07399 A (DUCKSOO KIM ;BETH ISRAEL HOSPITAL (US)) 26 February 1998 (1998-02-26) claims 1,2; figures 31-39 ---	40,53, 54,71
A	US 5 868 763 A (CHRISTAKIS GEORGE ET AL) 9 February 1999 (1999-02-09) figures -----	55,62

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/NL 00/00265

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this International application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☒ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☒ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/SA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. Claims: 1-22

Cardiac prosthesis fixing device comprising a tubular element having bottom and top flanges whereby the bottom flange is bent reversibly against a resilient force from a first into a second fixed position whereby the fixing can be released

2. Claims: 23-39

Prosthesis fixing device comprising a tubular element having several pins which are arranged on an arm to swing around a hinge axis

3. Claims: 40-54

Fixing device comprising a tubular element having bottom and top fingers whereby these fingers are bent aside reversibly against a resilient force from a first into a second fixed position by a sleeve

4. Claims: 55-71

Fixing device comprising a tubular body having an inner flange and an outer flange which runs around and overlaps the inner flange and which is bendable against a resilient force

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

Int. Patent Application No

PCT/NL 00/00265

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